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Declassified in Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2011/12/06: CIA-RDP89G00643R001000050046-1 Advance Edition Limited • Advance Edition Limited vance Edition Limited • Advance Edition Limited • Advance Edition Limite Office of Personnel Management Executive Registry FPM Bulletin, 295-49 **Federal Personnel Manual System** 87-2941X **FPM Bulletin** Advance Edition 7/21/87 Bulletin No. 295-49 SUBJECT: Review of Standard Application Forms SF 171, SF 171-A and SF 172

Washington, D. C. 20415 July 29, 1987

Action Date: September 1, 1987

Heads of Departments and Independent Establishments:

- This bulletin invites your agency's recommendations for revision of the standard forms used to apply for Federal employment, which are now under review within the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). The forms being reviewed are:
  - a. Application for Federal Employment, Standard Form (SF) 171 (Rev. 2/84);
  - b. Continuation Sheet for SF 171, SF 171-A (Rev. 2/84); and
  - c. Amendment to Application for Federal Employment, SF 172 (Rev. 3/84).
- OPM has several objectives in mind in conducting this review, the primary of which are:
  - a. To make revisions necessitated by changes in laws, regulations, and policy that have occurred since the 1984 revision.
  - b. To make design and clarification changes to facilitate easier applicant form preparation and to capture more accurate and informative examining data.
  - To make any changes possible that will reduce the public reporting burden, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Reauthorization Act of 1986.
- OPM is already seriously considering the following changes to the SF 171:
  - a. Reinstating the question asking for "Place of Birth"; this question was eliminated with the 1984 revision to the form and then found to be important for several purposes.
  - b. Clarifying or expanding questions relating to veteran preference, to elicit more
  - c. Adding a statement for males born after December 31, 1959, about the requirement that they be registered with the Selective Service System before they can be appointed to positions in Federal executive agencies (Section 1622 of the Defense Authorization Act of 1986).
  - d. Adding a background question on page 4 asking applicants "Are you delinquent on any debt to the Federal Government?"

Inquiries:

Staffing Systems Development Division, Career Entry Group, (202) 653-8076

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- 4. Your comments are invited on any or all of the above issues, as well as any other revisions you believe are necessary or appropriate to the SF 171, SF 171-A or SF 172. We are particularly interested in your identifying any questions, instructions, etc., which are not essential to your agency's efficient use of these forms.
- 5. In making your recommendations please keep in mind that these are general purpose forms and it is impossible to tailor them to all needs of individual agencies and specific jobs. To do so would make the forms unacceptably long and detailed and serve as a deterrent to applicants. Information that is required only by your agency or only for merit promotion or for specific jobs must be obtained by your agency through supplemental means.
- To be considered, your suggestions must be received in OPM by September 1, 1987. Your recommendations should be sent to:

Mr. Alan L. West, Chief Staffing Systems Development Division Office of Personnel Management Career Entry Group 1900 E. Street, N.W., Room 6H15 Washington, D.C. 20415

> James E. Deputy Director